(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the cities in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, where it is proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) A proposal to grant community radio broadcasting licenses to well established and recognized educational institutions/organizations to cater to the aspirations and specific requirements of a particular locality/area, is under consideration of the Government. Doordarshan has drawn up a scheme of narrowcasting, to be taken on a pilot basis from selected LPTs in different States, for telecasting programmes, produced in collaboration with Agricultural Universities, State Health Departments etc.

Narrowcasting by Doordarshan is proposed from 12 centres, *i.e.* Akola, Sagar, Ferozepur, Nainital, Hissar, Patiala, Coimbatore, Palakkad, Amalapuram, Bellary, Bilaspur and Hazaribagh. Limited transmission has been started from 8 centres, including from Amalapuram in Andhra Pradesh.

Coverage of AIR and DD

*8. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to cover all far-flung areas under the KU band-higher band frequency to widen the coverage of Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(b) whether there are still large areas of the States not covered by Doordarshan and All India Radio;

(c) if so, the steps being considered in this regard; and

(d) by when proposals in this regard are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati has informed that though the entire country is covered by Doordarshan in satellite mode,

through reception by appropriate dish antenna. 10.3% population of the country spread over 22.3% area and 1.2% population and 10.4% area do not receive terrestrial TV/AIR service respectively at present. A number of transmitter projects are presently under implementation in various parts of the country, which are expected to increase terrestrial TV/AIR coverage in the next 3 years to 92% and 99.3% of population and 81% and 91.8% of area respectively. To cover the remaining uncovered areas including far-flung areas, the Tenth Plan proposals of Doordarshan include *inter-alia* schemes for TV coverage with multi-channel bouquet in free to air mode, in Ku-band, through satellite distribution system. The scheme is yet to be approved by the competent authority, hence no definite time-frame for implementation can be indicated.

Chemical compositions

*9. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that a number of drugs with different incompatible chemical compositions are being sold freely across the counter in the country without the prior approval of the Drug Controller General of India;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether such drugs could pose serious threat to health and life of the patients; and

(d) the measures taken, so far, to control the menace and proposed to be taken to put an end to it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and rules made thereunder, licences for manufacture and sale of drugs are granted by State Licensing Authorities. No prior approval from the Drugs Controller General, India, is required for grant of licences for manufacture of drug formulations not considered as new drugs. However, when the reports of marketing of an irrational or harmful formulation is received, the matter is examined in consultation with the expert committee (a sub committee of Drugs Technical Advisory Board).